Mr. David Ignatius, foreign editor
The Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20071

9/10/91

Dear Mr. Ignatius,

For years I've been sending Washington Post stories to friends, including the non-Jewish hostory professor in the midwest to whom I sent the enclosed letter along with the clippings referred to and others.

Because my letter includes critical comments on the Post's Middle East reporting I send you the enclosed copy.

I did not single the Post out for these observations. I refer to others of the major media. I do not get the New York Times.

After reading Tom Friedman's book I wrote this friend and another also a history professor pointing out flaws and biases in it.

There is a marked increase in anti-Semitism in the country, as the Anti-Defamation Laague and others have reported, manifested in the Washington area by the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries and the wrecking of religious schools. I believe that at least in part this is fostered by incomplete and I think unfair reporting on the Middle East.

As an illustration, I also enclose a letter to our local papers and my response.

Roy Peachum was with the Post but probably before your time. He has been a local columnist for four or five years. He has used his column for overtly and uniformly anti-Israel propaganda dozens and dozens of times. I've kept a file of them and of my responses. He has yet to show a single factual error in anything I submitted.

His is and has been really frightful stuff, ranging from the statement that Hitler was coerced into anti-Semitism to defending Saddam Hussein as a man of God -during the Gulf War-and recently including much of what Heusser repeats. He has written that those Arabs we regard as terrorists, specifically identifying those of the Achille Lauro atrocity, are not terrorists and in fact are only patriots.

What Heusser does not mention and I criticized Peachum for is also in the same column. He reported, without any effort to check, that the Saudis executed members of our military forces there for alleged rape.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg